Appointment of Sixth Central Pay Commission

40. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some political parties have asked him to set up the Sixth Pay Commission for Central Government employees; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No such demand has been received in Ministry of Finance.

(b) Question does not arise.

Education Cess

41. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected, so far, by Government as Education Cess which was introduced in the last year's budget to fund primary education sector;

(b) the details of the expenditure made, so far, on this account together with its *modus operandi,* State-wise; and

(c) whether any guidelines for its utilization and reimbursement by the State Governments have been laid down and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The revised estimates for 2004-05 for receipts on account of Education Cess are Rs. 5010 crore and for expenditure on Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid Day Meal Scheme are Rs. 4753.63 crore and Rs. 2739.50 crore respectively. State-wise details of actual expenditure incurred are being ascertained. The Department of Elementary Education and Literacy have laid down guidelines for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the Mid Day Meal Scheme.